



Protecting citizen and government data

Digital challenges for the public sector

Digital sovereignty

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Introduction

Protecting citizen and business data

The digital transformation of public administrations has accelerated exponentially in recent years. Alongside it, managing sensitive citizen and business data has become a major challenge.

Local authorities, government departments and other public bodies now face increasingly sophisticated cyber threats.

The current threat landscape

strategic challenges for public administrations

Current threats include:

- ✓ **Destabilisation attacks:** sabotage, DDoS attacks and hacktivist campaigns.
- ✓ **A resurgence in espionage:** targeting telecoms operators, government departments and strategic subcontractors.

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Digital sovereignty

a key issue for the public sector

A government commitment through the “Cloud at the Centre” doctrine

The French government has introduced the “*Cloud at the Centre*” doctrine, which aims to centralise the digital infrastructure of public administrations and local authorities around qualified cloud services. This strategy supports the goal of guaranteeing national digital sovereignty. **It has a dual objective: enabling administrations to benefit from the advantages of the cloud (flexibility, controlled costs) while guaranteeing the security of sensitive data.**

A security guarantee against cyber risks

Cyberattacks targeting the public sector are increasing every year.

According to ANSSI (the French National Cybersecurity Agency), in 2023, **17%⁽¹⁾ of cyberattacks recorded in France targeted local authorities**, including incidents such as the ransomware attack on the city of Saint-Nazaire⁽²⁾, which paralysed its IT systems for weeks.

Key figures

58%

In 2021, **58% of local authorities were the target of a cyberattack**, compared with around 30% in 2020.⁽¹⁾

10%

According to ANSSI, attacks on the public sector account for **10% of major incidents**.⁽²⁾

ANSSI issued 162 security alerts to government departments in 2024. These alerts mainly concerned suspicious communications, critical vulnerabilities and targeted phishing campaigns (Source: Cyber Threat Overview 2024 - ANSSI).

Whaller DONJON, qualified SecNumCloud 3.2, meets exactly this level of requirement by offering a sovereign, secure and auditable response to growing digital threats. Unlike many solutions that rely solely on a qualified IaaS layer, Whaller applies rigorous control across the entire software stack, in line with ANSSI recommendations, including:

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Strengthening digital sovereignty

and optimising data
management in public
administrations.

How does Whaller DONJON address these challenges?

Whaller DONJON is a collaborative platform specifically designed for public administrations, with infrastructure hosted in France and **qualified SecNumCloud 3.2**. It secures document exchanges, video conferencing and project management, while giving complete control over the data exchanged.



Document management

Secure storage and sharing of sensitive documents.



Access control

Granular management of user permissions and rights.



Hosted in France

Data stored on dedicated French servers, beyond the reach of extraterritorial laws.



Advanced data protection

WaToo and Whaller work together to offer unrivalled protection against data leaks and access rights management (optional).



Strong authentication

Integration with AuthSezam (Open Sesam) enables passwordless login powered by Zero-Trust AI (optional).

Three use cases: secure collaboration for institutions



Captain Amandine

Officer in charge of Famille des Armées for the French Army

“Famille des Armées is the first ministerial social network dedicated to military personnel and their families.

The French Army chose [...] Whaller for several key reasons: a French company, secure and sovereign data hosting, and a platform that perfectly meets our community's expectations. FDA has become a central tool for addressing a wide range of needs [...]. Units also use it to organise events – family days, ceremonies – or to manage storage spaces where users can find photos, documents or forms.

Whaller is an ergonomic, intuitive and scalable solution that adapts perfectly to our community's needs. Its sovereign, secure hosting makes it a trusted platform.

Thanks to its collaborative approach and wide range of features, Whaller is far more than a tool: it's a genuine partner.”



Olivier Enderlin

Continuing Education Advisor, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Academic Region

"What really sets Whaller apart is its ingenious 'sphere' concept, which makes it possible to create distinct, personalised user journeys.

Bringing together social networking tools, a collaborative platform, video conferencing and an intranet in a single space has greatly improved communication and collaboration within our organisation.

I recommend Whaller to any educational institution or organisation looking for a complete, secure and cost-effective solution for managing their internal communication."



Nina Näsman

Community and Platforms Manager, AGORA, EIT Manufacturing

"What I really love about Whaller is its human-scale approach. We really appreciate the collaborative approach Whaller takes to technical development.

Over the past two years, since we've been managing the AGORA community, we've seen a lot of changes and improvements, and it keeps growing over time."

The European NIS2 directive imposes strict cybersecurity measures across 18 sectors of activity, most of them public but also including private organisations. It aims to harmonise security levels across Europe and protect key sectors against cyberattacks. In France, ANSSI plays a central role in enforcing the directive.

NIS2 requires public administrations and essential and important entities (EE/IE) to:

- ✓ **Implement** appropriate security measures.
- ✓ **Report** significant incidents to the relevant authorities.

Key figures

- 89%** **89% of local authorities** report having been the **target of cyberattacks.**⁽¹⁾
- 187** **187 cyber incidents affected local authorities** between January 2022 and June 2023 – an **average of 10 attacks per month.**⁽²⁾

Cybersecurity 2024

What ANSSI says (Source: Cyber Threat Overview 2024 - ANSSI)

+15%

A rise of more than **15% in cybersecurity incidents** handled by ANSSI over one year.

3k

3,004 reports were filed, with **1,361 confirmed incidents**.

2 major ransomware attacks took place during the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

Conclusion

A lasting commitment to the digital sovereignty of public administrations

Protecting citizen and business data is a major challenge for the public sector. Growing cyber threats demand a response equal to the challenge. By adopting sovereign, secure solutions such as Whaller DONJON, French public administrations can:

About Whaller

Whaller is a secure social and collaborative platform that can host several thousand people.

Whaller is the only simple, comprehensive tool able to address such a wide range of uses. It enables collaborative networks of any size and type to be built, for all kinds of organisations: companies, public administrations, associations, schools and universities, institutions, government departments, families, and more.

Key figures

2013 Whaller founded

+20 employees

+1M users

50k networks created

200 customers

+10 years of experience

1 deployment per day

Our solutions



Social network



Collaborative platform



Intranet



Document management



Digital workplace

Our accreditations



Our clients - Public Sector

More than 20,000 organisations trust us.





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